

NEWS RELEASE

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**Resource News**

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**Road Closure**

Roseburg, Ore – The Roseburg Bureau of Land Management will temporarily close BLM road 28-8-12.0 and BLM road 28-8-12.01 commonly known as Sugar Pine Ridge to public motorized traffic starting May 1, 2004.

The roads will be closed because of continued resource damage and dumping on Seneca land. “Seneca has worked very closely with us to patrol the area and provide educational resources such as signs and rewards but individuals continue to dump trash and tear up the roads when they are wet. It is our very last resort to close off motorized access but we have an obligation to both Seneca and the public to protect the land from further damage” says Jay Carlson, Roseburg BLM District Manager.

Several articles in the local News Review have shown contractors paid through tax payer dollars, picking up dumped trash. BLM law enforcement officers have issued several citations and monitored surveillance cameras but the destruction of property continues. “It must be understood; it is a privilege to be allowed access on to another person’s or company’s private property. This is true for forestland, just as it is in your own home. Further, it would be both foolish and irresponsible to repeatedly allow folks to vandalize your property. This is precisely the situation at Sugarpine Ridge and it has become necessary to close the door,” says Bill Moore of Seneca Jones Timber Company.

Persons performing official duties such as wildlife monitoring, organized rescue or fire-fighting or persons that have expressed permission from an authorized officer will continue to be allowed to enter the roads. Closure signs will be posted at the main entry points to the area and maps of the closure areas may be obtained at the Roseburg BLM District Office.

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